

News Release

October 1, 2013

Delaware Student Honored at National Book Festival

The “A Book That Shaped Me” Library of Congress National Book Festival Summer Writing Contest, a program that asks rising 5th and 6th graders to reflect on a book that has made a personal impact in their lives, has announced its 2013 winners.

Julian Jackson, II from the Brandywine Hundred Library is the Delaware State Winner and the 3rd Place Grand Prize Winner.

More than 300 young readers submitted essays to participating public libraries in the Mid-Atlantic region in this, the second year of the contest. Launched in 2012 with the D.C. Public Library, “A Book That Shaped Me” expanded with the help of public libraries in Washington, D.C., Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. The local libraries offered the contest as part of their summer reading programs.

Five finalists per state were chosen in an initial round of judging. The finalists each will receive a \$50 gift-card prize. That judging was conducted by members of the American Association of School Librarians (AASL), a division of the American Library Association (ALA). The AASL works to ensure all elementary- and secondary-school librarians participate as collaborative partners in the teaching and learning process.

The grand-prize judging round, which selected state and grand-prize winners from the pool of state finalists, was conducted by a panel assembled by the Library of Congress that included educators, children’s authors, and Library of Congress staff. Grand-prize winners read their essays during the “A Book That Shaped Me” presentation at the Library of Congress National Book Festival. The contest presentation took place on the National Mall in Washington, DC on Sunday, Sept. 22, 2013 at noon in the Special Programs Pavilion.



Grand Prize & State Winners

1st Place Grand Prize & Virginia State Winner

Sofie Dalton, Arlington Public Library who wrote about “The Penderwicks” by Jeanne Birdsall

2nd Place Grand Prize and Washington, D.C. Winner

Jessica Holloway, DC Public Library - Juanita E. Thornton/Shepherd Park Library, who wrote about “Jefferson’s Sons” by Kimberly Bradley

3rd Place Grand Prize and Delaware State Winner

Julian Jackson, II, Brandywine Hundred Library, who wrote about “The Breadwinner” by Deborah Ellis

Delaware Finalists

Sarah Gessner, Brandywine Hundred Library

Julian Jackson, II, Brandywine Hundred Library

Rebekkah Kehoe, Brandywine Hundred Library

Ryan McCrea, Dover Public Library

Nicole Ng, Brandywine Hundred Library